

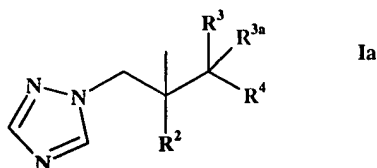
**Claims:**

1. A compound of formula I,



- 5 wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents the non-hydroxy portion of a triazole antifungal compound of the type comprising a tertiary hydroxy group;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a group of formula Ia,



- 10 in which

R<sup>2</sup> represents phenyl substituted by one or more halogen atoms;

R<sup>3</sup> represents H or CH<sub>3</sub>;

R<sup>3a</sup> represents H, or together with R<sup>3</sup> it may represent =CH<sub>2</sub>; and

- 15 R<sup>4</sup> represents a 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, =O, phenyl [substituted by a group selected from CN and (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)-OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>CHF<sub>2</sub>] or CH=CH-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)-OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>CHF<sub>2</sub>; or phenyl substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen and methylpyrazolyl.

3. A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is 2,4-difluorophenyl.

- 20 4. A compound as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is H or methyl.

5. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein R<sup>4</sup> represents or comprises a triazolyl, pyrimidinyl or thiazolyl group.

6. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which is:

2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-1,3-bis(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)-2-propyl dihydrogen phosphate; or

- 25 (2R,3S)-2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-3-(5-fluoro-4-pyrimidinyl)-1-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)-2-butyl dihydrogen phosphate;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a  
30 pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

8. A compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as a pharmaceutical.

9. The use of a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of fungal infections.

10. A method of treatment or prevention of fungal infections, which comprises  
5 administering a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to a patient in need of such treatment.

11. A process for the production of a compound of formula I, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises phosphorylating a compound of formula II,

10 
$$\text{R}^1\text{OH} \quad \text{II}$$

wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is as defined in claim 1;

and where desired or necessary converting the resulting compound into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or vice versa.

12. A process as claimed in claim 11, which comprises the step of removing the  
15 hydroxy protecting groups from a compound of formula V,

$$\text{R}^1\text{-OP(O)(OR}^c\text{)(OR}^d\text{)} \quad \text{V}$$

wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is as defined in claim 1, and  $\text{R}^c$  and  $\text{R}^d$  independently represent hydroxy protecting groups.

13. The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein  $\text{R}^c$  and  $\text{R}^d$  independently represent  
20 benzyl optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms.

14. A compound of formula V, as defined in claim 12.

15. A method of improving the aqueous solubility of a triazole antifungal compound of the type comprising a tertiary hydroxy group, which comprises converting the tertiary hydroxy group into a phosphate group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.